



# The IGUANA

Volume 16, No. 19

Sept. 17, 2004



## Iguana Olympians pull for gold

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## Chaplain's corner

## Why the hurricanes?

By Chaplain (Capt.) Rory Rodriguez  
JTF-B command chaplain

*If God is good, then why the hurricanes?*

**H**ave you thought about this or said these words lately? I wonder what you'd answer if someone asked you the big question.

Is there an answer?

Of course there is. What do you think God would say about this issue?

Do you think your answer would be better than his?

Man has been questioning God for a long time.

Do you know that the devil himself was the first to question God's actions before Eve?

He said to Eve, "Yea hath God said?" In questioning God, he lied to Eve in the process.

Imagine that – the devil trying to make God a liar.

Questioning God is nothing new. In fact, God expects it.

That great man Job had all kinds of questions on why he was suffering. No doubt, the survivors of the hurricanes have said, "Why God?"

Of course, this usually comes after the, "Oh my God!"

Now, I don't think there is any sin in and of itself in asking questions about God's doings.

It's the attitude of unbelief or accusing God wrongly in his dealings that constitutes the sin.

Have you ever accused God of being unfair or unjust?

Have you ever charged God for doing evil in allowing natural disasters to cause damage and even death?

Do you think you can comprehend the mind of God fully?

Can finite man understand the ways of infinite God?

I can't even comprehend how a bumble bee can possibly fly with those little wings carrying a body of that size (just imagine an elephant with wings the size of chicken – that's the picture I get). I guess all things are possible with God, right?

So, back to our question: why would



God allow natural disasters that end up destroying things and lives?

Now, I have to be careful in my answer, for I dare not presume to speak for God but I believe here are some possible answers.

1. To get us to realize how frail our own lives can be in this life.

2. To get us to realize that things are only temporal and that we should not put our trust in the things of this earth but God who made the earth.

3. To give us an opportunity to receive a blessing by giving our time or energy to those in need, for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

4. To get us to be more thankful, for it could be a lot worse.

5. To appreciate what we do have because it may be gone tomorrow.

Those are five of my answers should you ask me.

What did you come up with? Anything better?

Now, if you still wish to persist in getting an answer, you can ask God himself when you see him.

You will get the opportunity. However, be advised that you will have to answer for your actions when you see God.

What? Do you actually think that God will not question you?

Do you mean to think that it's OK for you to question God for his actions in this life but not OK for him to question you in the next life?

I hope you have the right answers when you have to answer for your thoughts, words and actions.

What goes around comes around.

## Never compromise safety

By Army Col. Richard Bassett  
JTF - B commander

My simple goal is to minimize accidents and their attendant cost in suffering and decreased readiness.

Safety must be a part of everything we do on and off-duty. There are risks associated with all activities, and through the application of risk management principles we can establish control measures to reduce our exposure to those risks.

I expect all leaders, service members and civilians to constantly look for ways to mitigate risk, and accept only the residual risk that cannot be eliminated.

Accident prevention is essentially a matter of assessing hazards, developing controls, implementing the controls, and supervising execution. We must incorporate risk management techniques into everything.

Excellence in safety starts with individual commitment and discipline. Injuries and damage to equipment occur for many reasons. Complacency, excessive motivation, over confidence and disregard for established procedures are the most common causes.

Exercise concern for the well-being of



Army Col.  
Richard Bassett

our Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and civilians everyday. If you see an unsafe act or condition, take action immediately to correct the situation.

Good judgment is the cornerstone of any safety program. It's developed by having a positive attitude toward safety and is seen in your commitment to your job and your fellow Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and civilians.

You must plan your operations carefully, objectively analyze your actions, follow standard procedures, avoid unnecessary risks and stay proficient in your specialty.

Everyone must include risk management in everything we do; before, during, and after operations. Never compromise the safety of yourself or your team. Make every effort to manage risk.

We must achieve safety through prevention, not through investigation. Remain vigilant and take care of yourself and your co-workers. I want you to know my concern for your safety and sincere determination to spare no effort in making your job a safe one.

Be assertive – think safety.



Graphic by Bob Rosenburgh

## The IGUANA

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## on the cover

Airmen 1st Class William Condon (foreground) and Matthew Tamondong, Fire Department, struggle to stay on their feet during the Tug of War event of the Iguana Olympics Sept. 2. Photo by Sgt. Jorge Gomez. For story and photos, see Pages 4 and 5.

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## News

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# JSF, Honduran team secures base

By Sgt. Jorge Gomez  
Editor

**J**oint Security Forces invited Honduran military security forces and local law enforcement officers to a unit social gathering here Sept. 1.

The Puerto Rican-style feast brought members of the 156th Security Forces Squadron together with their Honduran partners, fostering a greater working relationship, which includes the exchange of local criminal activities information.

"We are guests on this base, so it is very important that we maintain a good relationship to mutually support and protect the personnel and resources of Soto Cano," said Air Force Maj. Jose Iguina, Joint Security Forces deputy commander.

The Puerto Rican Air National Guard unit, which arrived in May to support the JSF mission, has taken the U.S./Honduran security forces relationship a step further because its members speak Spanish, said Honduran Capt. Carlos Flores, Honduran security forces chief of operations.

"We've been able to work with U.S. service members with the assistance of an interpreter, but when there is no communication barrier things run smoother and we are able to develop a friendship with each other," Flores said.

Current joint responsibilities include main gate operations, base and perimeter patrol, tower security and access control operations.

Local Honduran law enforcement agencies are also interested in supporting the Joint Task Force – Bravo mission.

"JTF-Bravo has always been generous in assisting us with our operations so we are prepared to support the mission of JSF" said Jose Ramirez, Comayagua Police Department chief. "Hondurans benefit when American circulate their U.S. currency into the Honduran economy so we welcome their presence in the region."

JSF provides general guidance in criminal and military police investigations to local Honduran law enforcement agencies.

The 156th currently has deployed members here while also supporting the Homeland Defense mission at MacDill and Patrick Air Force Bases, Fla. Most Airmen work in law enforcement career fields back home while some members carry full-time college loads or work for state, federal and private corporations.

They have been deployed to Ecuador, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Curacao, Moody AFB, Ga., and Canon AFB, N.M.

The JSF unit also has personnel from the Puerto Rican National Guard 612th Air Base Squadron and the Georgia Army Reserve.

JSF provides law enforcement and security for JTF – Bravo personnel, facilities, equipment and contingency operations; functions as the liaison between the U.S. government and Honduran military security elements and law enforcement agencies.



Photo by Sgt. Jorge Gomez

Senior Airman Jean Pierre Arroyo, Joint Security Forces, and Honduran Sgt. Osmin Ocampo, Honduran security forces, conduct a security check of the Ammunition Supply Point.

## What's the worst job you've had?



"I worked at a pet store and I had to care for animals which included cleaning up after them each time they 'went' to the bathroom."

– Senior Airman Joseph Cook,  
Air Force Forces Fire Department



"I was a junior high school janitor. The kids would purposely make a mess just for me to clean up."

– Sgt. David Roble,  
Army Forces



"I was technical support for an internet service provider. I worked the graveyard shift and was always dealing with angry customers."

– Spc. Kenneth Masterman,  
Army Forces



"I worked in a laundry shop where I would take bed sheets from a hospital and feed them into a machine that steamed and folded them. I did that for eight straight hours a day."

– Master Sgt. John Conrad,  
Air Force Forces



Photo by Martin Chahin

Army Capt. Ismael Rodriguez, Medical Element, sprints across the pool during the swim relay. MEDEL finished the relay with a time of 2 minutes and 25 seconds. The 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment took first place with a time of 1 minute and 58 seconds.



Sgt. Phil James, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, leads the team during the basketball game.



Photo by Sgt. Jorge Gomez

Air Force Forces won the overall Major Subordinate Command award for the 2004 Iguana Olympics Sept. 2. Chief Master Sgt. David Fitzhugh, AFFOR senior enlisted advisor and first sergeant, receives the award from Army Col. Richard Bassett, Joint Task Force-Bravo commander.

(Right) Army Col. Richard Bassett, Joint Task Force-Bravo commander, leads the base-wide four-mile run before the start of the 2004 Iguana Olympics.

# Olympics reach JT

By Sgt. Jorge Gomez  
Editor

The Olympic torch was extinguished in Athens but it was re-lit at Soto Cano Air Base Sept. 2. Airmen, Soldiers, Honduran cadets and personnel of Joint Task Force - Bravo competed in soccer, basketball, swimming, tug of war and humvee push during the 2004 Iguana Olympics.

Army Col. Richard Bassett, JTF-Bravo commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ruben Espinoza, JTF-Bravo command sergeant major, led the base on a four-mile cohesion run before beginning the games. Major Sub-

ordinate Commands provided teams to compete in all categories throughout the day.

By the end of the day the Honduran cadets proved themselves masters of soccer, the Air Force Forces were crowned kings of basketball and best Humvee pushers, the 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment winged fastest in the swimming relay and pulled the hardest in the tug of war, and AFFOR tripled their merits taking the MSC overall award.

"The competition was tough and we came away with the overall trophy," said Chief Master Sgt. David Fitzhugh, Air Force Forces senior enlisted advisor and first sergeant. "But we all *won* the day, competing





Photo by Tech. Sgt. Roel Utley

28th Aviation Regiment, dribbles past Se-e Department.

# F-Bravo

and having fun, be it Army or Air Force.”  
Sgt. Sean Bradley, Medical Element, who competed in soccer and the swimming relay said he regretted not being able to organize his unit and practice before the event.  
“We failed to win a single category but our morale remained high all the way through,” Bradley said. “Other MSCs shouldn’t get the wrong impression about MEDEL. We’re bringing home a victory next time.”  
“The Iguana Olympics brought members of JTF-Bravo to bond through healthy competition,” Bassett said. “I saw people get a greater sense of cohesion and having fun. I’m proud of everyone for giving their best.”



Photo by 1st Lt. Anna Siegel



Photo by Sgt. Jorge Gomez

Senior Airman Alejandro Ramirez, Air Force Forces, wrestles for the soccer ball from Spc. Anthony Hammond, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment. The Honduran cadets team took first place in soccer.

# HIV-positive MP charged

By Sgt. Nicole Blakeslee  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs Office

A Fort Jackson Military Police officer was confined July 21 as authorities investigated allegations that he had unprotected sex knowing he had human immunodeficiency virus.

Sgt. Justin Kinlock, 17th Military Police Detachment, is charged under the Uniform Code of Military Justice with five counts of aggravated assault and five counts of disobeying a superior commissioned officer.

The 26-year-old was transferred to the Naval Consolidated Brig at Charleston Weapons Station, Charleston, S.C., where he will remain in pre-trial confinement pending conclusion of the criminal investigation.

The investigation began when a Fort Jackson female Soldier tested positive for HIV during a routine pregnancy screening and alleged to

preventive health professionals at Moncrief Army Community Hospital that she had engaged in unprotected sexual intercourse with Kinlock.

Kinlock was diagnosed with the virus in 1998 while stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., where he was counseled, in accordance with Army standards, by medical professionals about living with the illness and advised about repercussions of spreading the disease.

This HIV counseling was also conducted when Kinlock was assigned here in 2000, according to Maj. R. Jason Newsom, chief of Preventive Medicine.

"When Soldiers are diagnosed with HIV, they are counseled not to have unprotected sexual contact and to let their partner know they are HIV positive," said Karen Soule, public affairs officer.

"He did not do that. We feel that the HIV policy works, however, you can

not predict what people will do."

"This is a criminal case, and we are treating it as that," she added.

An ongoing investigation by Fort Jackson's Criminal Investigation Division is underway to determine if similar criminal acts have been performed by Kinlock against others.

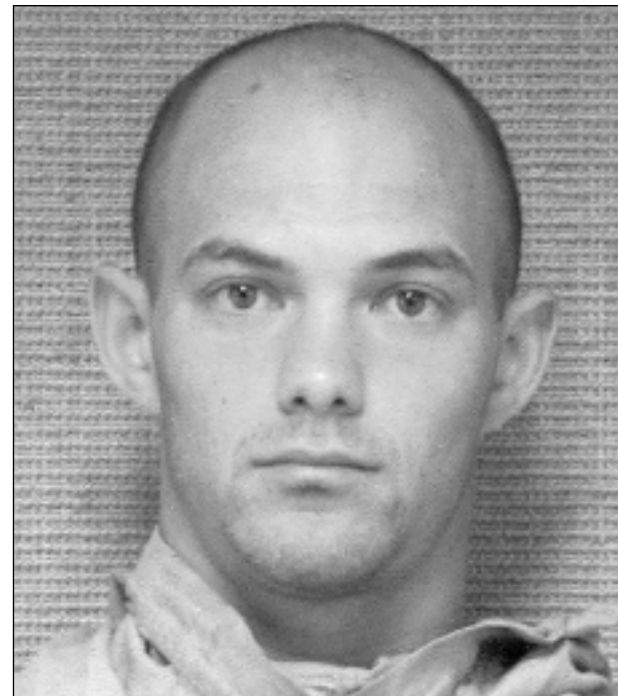
Other women have alleged they engaged in unprotected sexual activity with him.

The results of their tests are pending.

Efforts are being made to identify and locate other potential victims.

Kinlock will have a hearing under Article 32 of the UCMJ which is similar to civilian grand jury proceedings at a later date.

**If you have any information on Kinlock, who served at Fort Lewis, Wash., and Fort Jackson, S.C., contact the Fort Jackson CID office at (803) 751-7664.**



Courtesy photo

**Sgt. Justin Kinlock is charged with aggravated assault for having unprotected sex knowing that he had human immunodeficiency virus. Kinlock is a member of the 17th Military Police Detachment at Fort Jackson, S.C.**



**Feral animals, including opossums, roam Soto Cano Air Base and may carry rabies, worms or parasites. Do not feed stray animals.**

## Stray animals infect

By Army Capt. Richard Ramos  
Environmental Health chief

Feral animals (including cats, dogs, birds, skunks and opossums) roam Soto Cano Air Base and pose several health and safety hazards.

They are not vaccinated and should be considered infectious with rabies, worms or parasites.

If service members and civilians continue to feed feral animals, they will not go away.

Trappings by Pacific Architect and Engineers government services have been hin-

dered by people releasing trapped animals.

Do not release trapped animals from the cages. It poses serious injury and infection risk. PAE is trained to relocate or dispose of feral animals. Only PAE or Preventive Medicine is authorized to handle feral and trapped animals.

Do not feed any stray animals. If there are strays in your area, call PAE at extension 3550.

For more information regarding Preventive Medicine, call Army Staff Sgt. Monique Hernandez-Lyons at extension 4198 or Army Capt. Richard Ramos at extension 4500.



Courtesy photos

**Cats on Soto Cano Air Base should be considered infectious. Notify Pacific Architect and Engineers at extension 3550 to remove feral animals.**

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## Community

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Photos by Martin Chahin

Honduran children splash the water current held by Airman 1st Class Charles Carrington, Air Force Forces Fire Department. On a hot Sept. 10, everyone welcomed the cool water during the Honduran celebration of Children's Day at Soto Cano Air Base.

# Honduran kids get hands on Soto Cano

By Sgt. Jorge Gomez  
Editor

**J**oint Task Force - Bravo invited more than 200 children from local schools to see, feel, ride and test the waters of military vehicles and aircraft in honor of Honduras' national Children's Day Sept. 10.

The children from Catrachitos, in Siguatepeque, Comayagua; Matilde Cordova and Tierra Colorada in La Paz, were in grades kindergarten through sixth.

They toured static displays of a CH-47 Chinook, UH-60 Blackhawk, fire-engine and ambulance and watched a military working dog demonstration.

Civil Military Operations, led by U.S. Army Maj. Ray Malave, organized the event.

"We recognize the importance of this day for the Hondurans and we wanted to make a difference for the kids," said Malave, J-5 CMO director.

"It's not often that these kids get to see U.S. military aircraft up close or ride on large vehicles in a safe environment. We look forward to doing this again soon."



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Thomas Scott, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, gives flying lessons to a Honduran child on a UH-60 Blackhawk during the national celebration of Children's Day on Soto Cano Air Base Sept. 10.

# Tower power

**By 1st Lt. Michael Schulte**  
Army Forces

It's not everyday that a service member with a military occupational specialty of water treatment is afforded the opportunity for unique training.

However, being on the Joint Task Force-Bravo Search and Rescue team provides Airmen and Soldiers of various backgrounds training that they would not normally gain in their career field.

Recently the SAR team, with the help of Army Maj. David Walton and his fellow instructors from J-3 operations, conducted casualty ascent and

descent training on the rappel tower.

The members of the SAR team learned the mechanics of anchor points, pulleys and methods of evacuating a casualty in vertical terrain.

"The training was essential and beneficial to the team," said 1st Lt. Matt Meyer, Army Forces. "The instructors were professional and knowledgeable in their skills."

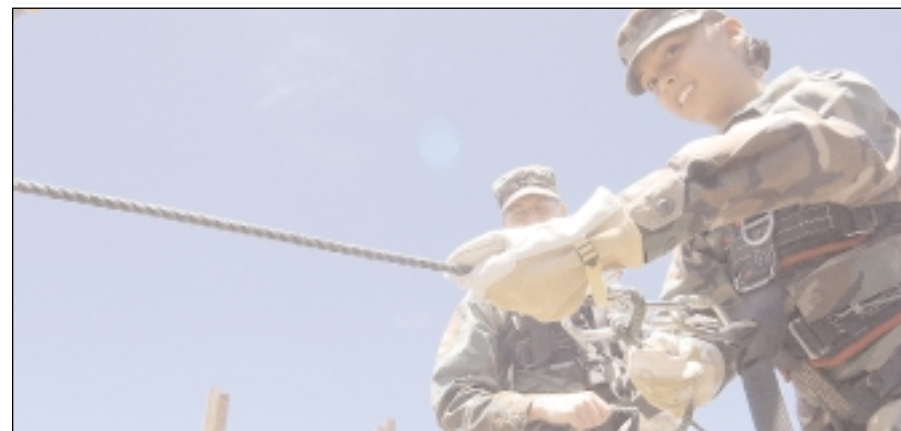
The SAR team is a joint organization incorporating Soldiers and Airmen from ARFOR, Medical Element, Joint Security Forces and Air Force Forces. They train every week to achieve success in any mission from aircraft crash response to search for lost personnel.



Members of the Search and Rescue team ascend the casualty, 1st Lt. Michael Schulte, Army Forces, to the top of the tower. The event provided the SAR team the training to evacuate a casualty using a sked, ropes and ingenuity.



Spc. Kenneth Masterman and Sgt. Steven Wine, Army Forces, haul in the casualty over the edge of the tower during a Search and Rescue team training exercise Sept. 1.



Pfc. Daisy Gonzalez, Army Forces, anchors and controls the safe descent of the casualty from the tower.

*Photos by Sgt. Jorge Gomez*